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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHTU #0434 1820651
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 010651Z JUL 09
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6501
INFO RUCNMGH/MAGHREB COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY 0988
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS TUNIS 000434

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EEB/ESC (MONOSSON), EEB/IFD/OMA, EEB/EPPD, AND
NEA/MAG (PATTERSON/HAYES)
STATE PASS USAID (MCCLLOUD)
USDOC FOR ITA/MAC/ONE (MASON), ADVOCACY CTR (TABINE), AND
CLDP (TEJTEL AND MCMANUS)
CASABLANCA FOR FCS (ORTIZ)
LONDON AND PARIS FOR NEA WATECHER

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ENRG](#) [KGHG](#) [SENV](#) [TS](#)
SUBJECT: IRENA: TUNISIA'S VOTE UNCERTAIN

REF: STATE 59971

(SBU) In a June 29, 2009 meeting with Econ/Commercial Officer to discuss reftel demarche, MFA Deputy Director for the Multilateral Directorate of the General Directorate of International Organizations and Conferences (DGOCI) Nedra Drige and Division Chief for Economic and Technical Cooperation of the DGOCI Nadia Doudech noted the GOT had sent a delegation to Sharm El Sheikh for the 2nd Session of the IRENA Preparatory Commission. However, they did not know how the delegation would vote on the headquarters location. Drige agreed choosing Abu Dhabi would send a good signal because it is both an OPEC country and a supporter of renewable energy. (Note: Media reports late on June 29 noted Tunisia did, in fact, vote for Abu Dhabi. End Note.) Both Drige and Doudech welcomed the focus of the United States on renewables and noted renewable energy was a part of the GOT's energy strategy.
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